

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING  
OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY**

**Wednesday, July 22, 2015  
450 Child Street, Boardroom, Warren, RI**

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Pursuant to proper notice, the Board Meeting of the Bristol County Water Authority was called to order by Chairman Klepper at 6:00 pm, 450 Child Street, Boardroom, Warren, Rhode Island.

Executive Director Pamela Marchand, Legal Counsel Joseph Keough and the following Directors were in attendance at the commencement of the meeting:

Paul Bishop, William Gosselin, Joel Hellmann, John Jannitto, Allan Klepper, Georgina Macdonald, Raymond Palmieri, Sr., Frank Sylvia

Directors Absent: Bradford Louison

**1. Public Input**

There was no public input.

**2. Minutes**

Director Sylvia made the following motion seconded by Director Hellmann

**MOTION: To approve the minutes of the 6/24/15 Board Meeting.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**3. Audit Report by Cayer Caccia**

Finance Manager M. Champagne introduced BCWA's auditors Donna Caccia and on site auditor Geri Bennett of Cayer & Caccia.

D. Caccia explained that there were some delays this year due to the computer conversion and accounting software. The audit opinion was fairly presented according to general accepted common accounting rules. Ms. Caccia pointed out the 2 new debt issues during the fiscal year; 1) \$8.3 million bond issue and 2) \$1.6 million RI Clean Water Finance loan. Other areas of the presentation included the write off of the design work of the Anawan dam, status of the OPEB trust, and a look at the overall debt of the Authority. She also commented on the forthcoming GASB 68 regarding new accounting and financial reporting requirement for Pensions and stated the impact on the authority would be minimal. As to a question regarding a lack of opinion on effectiveness of internal controls, Ms. Caccia stated that they comment on if necessary, evaluate, and test internal controls, found no flaws - yet do not express a formal opinion. It was also noted the BCWA's pension plan is 89.3% funded, in excellent shape compared to most. Ms. Caccia recommended updating BCWA's Policies and Procedures Manual to reflect the changes brought on by the new software programs. She also stated that next year's audit should be easier as the full year would be on the new software programs.

The Board thanked the auditors for their report.

#### **4. Executive Directors Report**

Executive Director P. Marchand – Providence Water is requesting a rate increase for their residential customers to purchase and renovate a new facility to house all of their departments. BCWA and other wholesale customers have intervened in the rate case to try and settle the proportional amount to be charged to wholesale customers.

Barrington Bridge – no new progress to report. Pare (hired by the state to review the condition of the water main) has provided a recommendation to the state to replace the entire main. Central Bridge – the pressure test failed, and a leak has been found near the bridge abutment. Once the pressure test passes, the main will be put in service. Metacom high Pressure Main, Bristol – design project 90% complete.

#### **5. Financial Report**

Finance Manager M. Champagne stated that revenue is 2.5% over budget and expenses are 1.4% under budget for the year to date. However, revenue is still subject to considerable variation due to weather and rainfall for the remainder of the summer. The Pension Plan fund earned 7.9%. Washington Trust will make a presentation at the September Board Meeting.

Director Macdonald stated a Financial Meeting should be held to discuss OPEB.

#### **6. Bid Awards**

##### **1. BCWA Paving Services –**

The following motion was made by Director Sylvia seconded by Director Hellmann

**MOTION: To award Annual Paving Services to JML Excavation in the amount of \$112,765.00 based on the unit prices that they bid, which could be higher or lower depending on actual field conditions.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

##### **2. Leak Detection**

Executive Director P. Marchand stated that BCWA purchased leak detection equipment, and we are working on the system. However, we would like to hire a professional to check one-half of the system each of the next 2 years. A professional is much more adept at finding smaller leaks and targeting them for repair.

The following motion was made by Director Hellmann and seconded by Director Gosselin

**Motion: To award low bidder Prowler Water Conservation Systems LLC for leak detection services in the amount of \$9,790.00.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

##### **3. Water Main Installation – Tie-ins, Town of Bristol**

Director Sylvia made the following motion seconded by Director Bishop

**MOTION: To award contract to D'Ercole Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$391,000.00, which includes police, inspection services and contingency.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Director Macdonald asked that a financial report be submitted to the Board when the job is completed.

**7. Update – Warren Little League**

Director Gosselin requested that this item be continued for August, Warren Little League has failed to sign a payment agreement.

**8. Board Correspondence**

Director Sylvia stated he had been asked by the Bristol Town Council to look into providing financing for the installation of a water main for homes on Riverview Ave that are on wells. Attorney Joe Keough was asked to check on the legality of BCWA providing loans for these types of projects.

Item will be on the August agenda.

Director Palmieri stated that BCWA should first develop a policy.

**9. Executive Session – Union Negotiations RIGL 42-46.5(2)**

No news on this matter.

**10. Next Scheduled Meeting**

8/26/15 Board Meeting.

Director Sylvia made the following motion seconded by Director Palmieri

**MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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Raymond Palmieri, Sr.  
Secretary